



17/ Pre R/Walt
+ dirwy corrections
Docket No.: 57273

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: G. Cevc

EXAMINER: G. Kishore

SERIAL NO.: 09/555,986

GROUP: 1615

FILED: August 17, 2000

FOR: METHOD FOR DEVELOPING, TESTING AND USING ASSOCIATES OF
MACROMOLECULES AND COMPLEX AGGREGATES FOR IMPROVED
PAYLOAD AND CONTROLLABLE DE/ASSOCIATION RATES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 2/13, 2003.

By: Beth Ann Marino
BETH-ANN MARINO

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

Sir:

FEB 21 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

TECH CENTER 1600, 2300

This application is an RCE of prior U.S.S.N.: 09/555,986, filed on August 17, 2000. Before consideration on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as set forth herein.

In particular, on December 13, 2002, Applicants filed an Amendment in response to a Final Office action mailed on June 24, 20002. In an Advisory Action mailed on January 9, 2003, the Examiner indicated that the amendments made in Applicants' December 13, 2002 Amendment would not be entered because they raised new issues. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the subject application be preliminarily amended as provided in their December 13, 2002 Amendment. The contents of the December 13, 2002 Amendment are provided herein.